



Congregation Beth Aaron/ 406-248-6412

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Photo by Rachel Schaffer, c. 2006

Calendar of Events

DECEMBER

Friday, December 1

7:00 p.m.: Z'mirot

7:30 p.m.: Shabbat service

Saturday, December 2

10:00 a.m.: Torah Study

12:00 p.m.: Lunch 'n' Learn
(bring your own lunch)

Friday, December 15

5:00 p.m.: Religious School

6:00 p.m.: Chanukkah service

7:00 p.m.: Latke Fest!

Saturday, December 16

10:00 a.m.: Torah Study

12:00 p.m.: Lunch 'n' Learn
(bring your own lunch)

Monday, December 18

12:00 p.m.: Chanukkah candle
lighting in Helena

Thursday, December 21

7:00 p.m.: Interfaith Solstice
celebration at Shiloh United
Methodist Church (see article, p.
4)

Rabbi Erik's Schedule of Visits for 2017

Student Rabbi Erik Uriarte
will be in Billings on the
following dates:

Dec 1-3 (Religious School)

Dec 15-17: Chanukkah
(Religious School)

Jan 26-28

Feb 16-18



Lunch and Learn

Getting Paid by the Word: A Primer on "The Text"

To say that Jewish religious writing over the centuries has been prolific is an understatement. When we talk about teachings or laws or traditions, we usually simply refer to "The Text," often written by "the Rabbis." But what do we refer to when we say this? The Torah? Tanakh? Midrash? Mishnah? Talmud? *The Joys of Yiddish*? All or none of the above?

Judaism has an amazing tradition of legalistic and philosophical writings that help us to understand our core holy book, the Torah. In the thousands of years following the adoption of the Torah by the Jewish people (whether by Revelation at Sinai

or redaction by more secular authority), the core five books gave rise to hundreds of others, with thousands upon thousands of pages of interpretation, critical analysis, deconstruction, and even a little bit of petty infighting.

This class will help to demystify "The Text." I'll be covering when each of the main components came to be part of the Jewish tradition, the role and purpose it plays, and its connection to all of the others that came before it, all the way back to Torah. I'll also present the relationship of our textual and legal tradition to something more modern: American Constitutional Government.

The Shabbat Project-2017

The Shabbat Project-2017 came to a close in Billings with sundown and Havdalah led by Rabbi Uriarte on Saturday, October 28. Congregation Beth Aaron was one of more than 1,350 communities listed as part of the international effort in 96 different countries. Over 1,000,000 Jews are estimated to have participated in observing Shabbat to some more fulfilling degree than was their usual practice. Here in Billings, 45 people attended one or more of the expanded

menu of activities at Temple Beth Aaron. Six of the enthusiastic attended throughout the Shabbat.

We wish to thank David Wilk and Tamara Dayton for preparing the synagogue for the event. We appreciate their coming in the Sunday morning of October 22; they vacuumed all the carpeted areas, mopped the tile and wood floors, and cleaned the entrance-way glass. Our building sparkled on that beautiful sunny day.

Significant Dates in the History of CBA

From Julie Coleman's *Golden Opportunities*:

1890's: Arrival of Ben Werner in Billings

1899: Arrival of Sam Vinner in Billings

1901: Arrival of Arthur Werner in Billings

1902: Arrival of Sam Fefferman in Billings

1904: Arrival of Louis Harron in Billings

1910: Arrival of Max Bikman in Billings

1913: Arrival of Louis Melnick in Billings

1917: Establishment of Billings' B'nai B'rith Lodge #815

1918: Incorporation of Congregation Beth Aaron & opening of Beth Aaron Cemetery

1922: Arrival of George Sukin in Billings

1931: Arrival of Jerome & Frieda Kohn in Billings

1935: Arrival of Norm & Shirley Alweis in Billings

1940: Completion of first synagogue, Temple Beth Aaron, 1148 North Broadway

1953: Affiliation with Reform arm of American Jewry, the Union of American Hebrew Congregations

1959: Establishment of Louis Harron Trust

Happy Hanukkah





Photo by Rachel Schaffer, c. 2006

The deadline for submitting items for the January Temple Tablet is **Friday, December 22**. Send items to the editor, Rachel Schaffer.

Candle-Lighting Times

Friday, Dec. 1	4:18 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 8	4:17 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 15	4:19 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 22	4:22 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 29	4:26 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 5	4:32 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 12	4:39 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 19	4:47 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 26	4:55 p.m.

Torah Portions for November & December

11/4: Vayera Pent. Gen. 18:1-22:24; Pr. II Kings 4:1-37

11/11: Chaye Sarah Pent. Gen. 23:1-25:18; Pr. I Kings 1:1-31

11/18: Toledot Pent. Gen. 25:19-28:9; Pr. 1 Sam. 20:18-42

11/25: Vayetze Pent. Gen. 28:10-32:3; Pr. Hos. 12:13-14:10

12/2: Vayishlach Pent. Gen. 32:4-36:43; Pr. Obadiah 1:1-21

12/9: Vayeshev Pent. Gen. 37:1-40:23; Pr. Amos 2:6-3:8

12/16: Miketz Pent. Gen. 41:1-44:17; Num. 7:30-41; Pr. Zech. 2:14-4:7

12/23: Vayigash Pent. Gen. 44:18-47:27; Pr. Ezek. 37:15-28

12/30: Vayechi Pent. Gen. 47:28-50:26; Pr. I Kings 2:1-12

1/6: Shemot Pent. Ex. 1:1-6:1

Donations

New Year's Greetings

*Theo & Dawn Hirshfeld

High Holy Days

*Scott Hecht

Member News

*Sincere condolences to Elyse Monat on the death of her father, Bob Monat.

May his memory be a blessing.

Chanukkah Candle Lighting in Helena

The annual lighting of the Chanukkah candles will take place on Monday, December 18, beginning at noon in

the Capitol Rotunda in Helena. Governor Steve Bullock is scheduled to join the ceremony.

Jews and Brews

The first Jews and Brews event took place on November 30 at the Last Chance Pub and Cider Mill. Nine young Jewish people gathered to meet new friends, catch up with old ones, and enjoy some delicious food and beverages. Thank you to CBA for providing appetizers. The group hopes to meet again soon and continue

expanding! If you know of anyone who would like to participate, please send their contact info to Elyse Monat at elysemonat@gmail.com. Young Jewish people aged 20-40ish, young people interested in conversion, and spouses or partners are welcome to join. A big thanks to Kat Healy and Rabbi Erik for helping to organize the event.

Yahrzeits

In Jewish custom, the yahrzeit is the anniversary of a loved one's death according to the Hebrew calendar. The Hebrew date comes first; the civil date follows (and varies by year).

Cheshvan

16 (Nov 5): Mildred Kraushaar, mother of Alan Kraushaar

17 (Nov 6): Les Alweis, father of Don Alweis, grandfather of Sheldon Alweis

19 (Nov 8): Joe Sax, grandfather of Marc Blum

20 (Nov 9): Berthe Perlmann, mother of Thelma Lakier

Ted Fahrenwald, father of Roxanne Fahrenwald

21 (Nov 10): Irving Sanders, father of Jeff Sanders

24 (Nov 13): Bess Misner, mother of Marilyn Kramer

25 (Nov 14): Hugh Ford, husband of Julie Coleman Ford

Richard Wexler, father of Diane Kersten

27 (Nov 16): Richard Civin, brother of Donna Healy

29 (Nov 18): Mollie Sanders, mother of Jeff Sanders

Kislev

9 (Nov 27): Evelyn Jaffe Miller, mother of Heather Rio, grandmother of Jonathan Edward Rio

Bernice Samuels Schaffer, mother of Rachel and Deborah Schaffer

11 (Nov 29): Norman Alweis, uncle of Don Alweis

12 (Nov 30): Juanita L. Rio, mother of Andy Rio, grandmother of Jonathan Edward Rio

Vivian Civin, mother of Donna Healy

14 (Dec 2): Sherwood Schnitzer Kopelove, mother of Brian Schnitzer

15 (Dec 3): Morris Niss, founding member of CBA

17 (Dec 5): Rose Yoelin, grandmother of Sandy Sukin

18 (Dec 6): Bessie Schnitzer, grandmother of Brian Schnitzer

22 (Dec 10): Sol Cohen, grandfather of Ellen Alweis

Jenny Nemer Sibinger, daughter of Linda and Bob Nemer; sister of David Nemer; granddaughter of Zella and Maury Nemer

Adam Sibinger, son-in-law of Linda and Bob Nemer

24 (Dec 12): Aaron Small, longtime member of CBA

25 (Dec 13): Goldie Sukin, mother of Jack and Bob Sukin, grandmother of Dean Sukin

Tevet

1 (Dec 19): Charles Elton Lund, father of Liz Barnea

11 (Dec 29): Ida Page, mother of Al Page

14 (Jan 1): Harvey Jaffe, uncle of Heather Rio

16 (Jan 3): Rose Silver, grandmother of Jack and Bob Sukin

Harold G. Fink, father of Arthur Fink

17 (Jan 4): Zella Nemer, mother of Robert Nemer

18 (Jan 5): Isidore Duberstein, father of Lenny Duberstein

December 2017

November 2017	December 2017	January 2018
S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S
1 2 3 4	1 2	1 2 3 4 5 6
5 6 7 8 9 10 11	3 4 5 6 7 8 9	7 8 9 10 11 12 13
12 13 14 15 16 17 18	10 11 12 13 14 15 16	14 15 16 17 18 19 20
19 20 21 22 23 24 25	17 18 19 20 21 22 23	21 22 23 24 25 26 27
26 27 28 29 30	24 25 26 27 28 29 30	28 29 30 31
	31	

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	1 7 pm Z'mrot 7:30 pm Shabbat service מגילת	2 10 am Torah Study 12 pm Lunch 'n' Learn
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 First night of Chanukkah	13	14	15 5 pm Religious School 6 pm Chanukkah Service 7 pm Latke Fest.	16 10 am Torah Study 12 pm Lunch 'n' Learn
17	18 * 12pm Chanukkah Lighting Heder	19	20 Last day of Chanukkah	21 * 7 pm Ice Skating at Shalom United	22	23
24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day	26	27	28	29	30
31 New Year's Eve	1 New Year's Day	2	3	4	5	6

New Advocate at CASA

At the recent CBA Board meeting, Ben McKee, Recruitment Coordinator of CASA of Yellowstone County, spoke about his organization and wanted to share the following with all CBA members:

“The success of our future depends on the well-being of our children, but in Montana, they are among the most vulnerable in our communities. Statewide, the number of children entering foster care due to abuse or neglect in recent years has skyrocketed. In Yellowstone County, the number of children removed from their home has

increased drastically from 182 in 2014 to an astonishing 531 in 2016, resulting in approximately 1,000 children currently in foster care. Despite the enormity of these statistics, our children are more than numbers, and each one deserves a voice. You could be that voice by becoming a volunteer Court Appointed Special Advocate with CASA of Yellowstone County. Our next New Advocate training begins in January. Give us a call at 259-1233 or visit our website at www.YellowstoneCASA.org to learn more about our upcoming information sessions and how you can make a difference in the life of an abused or neglected child.”

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We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.cbamt.org &

[https://www.facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Congregation-Beth-Aaron/152760054761654)

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Useful links on the Web:

URJ weekly Torah series

[http://urj.org/torah/#cprFor%](http://urj.org/torah/#cprFor%20Webmasters)

[20Webmasters](http://urj.org/torah/#cprFor%20Webmasters)

Weekly newsletter of the

Reform movement

<http://urj.org/enews/jta/>

Weekly "Ten Minutes of

Torah"

<http://urj.org/torah/ten/>

Leaning Toward the Light: An Interfaith Celebration

On Thursday, December 21, Solstice 2017, at 7:00 p.m., join Congregation Beth Aaron and Shiloh United Methodist Church at 1810 Shiloh Road for an interfaith gathering of Jewish and Christian reflection, music and jazz on the shortest day of the year. This celebration has been a great success in Helena, and Rev. Tyler Amundson, who

recently moved to Billings, has reached out to our community for a joint celebration. The program will include singing by our very own Jill Salsbury. If you have questions or would like to participate in planning, please contact Diane Kersten at 406-697-7992 or Karen Beiser 406-679-0253.

JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL HANUKKAH CELEBRATION



CONGREGATION BETH AARON Welcomes You

2031 Broadwater 248-6412

SERVICE with RABBI ERIK HANUKKIAH LIGHTING LATKE FEST POTLUCK

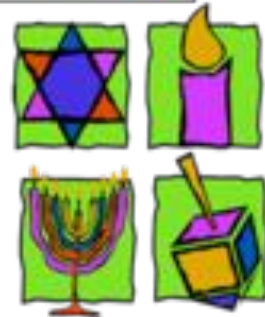
FRIDAY DECEMBER 15, 2017

6:00 PM Join us in the sanctuary to light our menorahs. Please bring a family hanukkah for our display. Candles provided by CBA.

7:00 PM LATKE FEST, POTLUCK, GOOD COMPANY AND HANUKKAH FUN



AND HANUKKAH PIRATA



POTLUCK (Dairy compatible please)
If your last name ends with: A-M dessert
N-Z salad or side dish

**CONGREGATION BETH AARON
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